

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KAMPAL 03257 302233Z

70/43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 A-01 SCA-01 INR-10 PER-05

OC-06 CCO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SY-10 INRE-00

SS-20 SSO-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 USIE-00 OPR-02 DRC-01

/121 W

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O P 301410Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3267

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

AMCONSUL STUTTGART PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KAMPALA 3257

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR ADDITIONAL TEXT (PARA NBR 7. AND
ALL AFTER)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR US UG GW

SUBJECT: CLOSURE OF EMBASSY KAMPALA

REFS: STATE 213253, 213254, 213255

1. WE HAVE NO QUARREL WITH DECISION TO CLOSE THIS POST, BUT WE
WOULD PREFER TO LEAVE IN AS ORDERLY, COMFORTABLE, AND DIGNIFIED
A MANNER AS POSSIBLE. NO ONE FEELS IN DANGER, AND ALL WOULD PREFER
TO PACK THEIR EFFECTS, DISPOSE OF CARS, ETC., PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.
(WE ALL OWN FOREIGN-MAKE VEHICLES, AND INDETERMINATE FUTURE PLUS
DEPT.'S REGULATIONS ON SHIPMENT OF FOREIGN-MAKE VEHICLES MAKE
IT MANDATORY THAT VEHICLES BE SOLD HERE.)

2. ALL DEPENDENTS ARE ALREADY IN NAIROBI. MARINE SECURITY GUARD
DETACHMENT ALL LEAVING TOGETHER FOR NAIROBI ON TOMORROW MORNING'S
EAA FLIGHT. LOU BETTS AND ELLEN CHUDYK HAVE ALREADY LEFT AND JOHN
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PAGE 02 KAMPAL 03257 302233Z

BARCAS LEAVES TOMORROW. REMAINING PERSONNEL (NINE PERSONS) WILL

LEAVE AS THEY COMPLETE THEIR PRE-DEPARTURE PREPARATIONS. I WILL BE THE LAST TO GO.

3. WOULD PREFER NOT REPEAT NOT TO INFORM GOU OFFICIALLY UNTIL BULK OF PERSONNEL HAVE LEFT, PERHAPS NOT UNTIL JUST PRIOR TO MY OWN DEPARTURE, THOUGH GOU WILL PROBABLY HEAR ABOUT IT BEFORE THEN. WOULD ALSO PREFER NOT TO DISCUSS ANYTHING WITH WEST GERMAN AMBASSADOR UNLESS AND UNTIL FRG HAS AGREED TO ASSUME ROLE OF PROTECTING POWER.

4. WOULD PREFER NOT TO ADVISE PRIVATE AMCITS UNTIL A BIT LATER ON BUT BEFORE OUR DEPARTURE OF COURSE.

5. EMBASSY'S OFFICIAL VEHICLES ARE IN SUCH A DEPLORABLE STATE THAT IT MAKES NO SENSE TO DRIVE THEM TO NAIROBI. DOUBT ANY ONE OF THEM WOULD MAKE IT AS FAR AS BORDER. VEHICLE IN BEST CONDITION, TOYOTA LAND-CRUISER, IS ALREADY IN NAIROBI BEING SERVICED AND SHOULD STAY THERE. USIS HAS JUST RECEIVED TWO NEW VEHICLES WHICH CAN PROBABLY BE SOLD HERE FOR MORE THAN THEY ARE WORTH, AS CAR PRICES ARE HIGH NOW. RECOMMEND EMBASSY VEHICLES BE DISPOSED OF HERE FOR WHAT THEY WILL BRING.

6. FOR THE MOMENT I CONSIDER ALL REMAINING PERSONNEL ESSENTIAL. FOR ONE THING, STARTING AT MIDNIGHT TONIGHT WE WILL ALL HAVE TO TAKE TURNS STANDING GUARD DUTY IN CHANCERY IN PLACE OF MARINES.

7. GOU IS APPARENTLY ENGAGED IN A PROGRAM OF HARASSMENT OF US. SINCE 1030 LOCAL YESTERDAY ELECTRIC POWER HAS BEEN SHUT OFF IN ENTIRE EMBASSY HOUSE WHERE OUR CHANCERY IS LOCATED. REPEATED CALLS TO ELECTRIC COMPANY HAVE BEEN UNAVAILING. POWER IS ALSO OUT AT USIS CENTER, ALLEGEDLY FOR NON-PAYMENT OF BILL (HOWEVER, BILL WAS PAID). THIS MORNING ARMY TYPES CUT TELEPHONE LINE AT EMBASSY-OWNED RESIDENCE OCCUPIED BY NCOIC KEYES. THEY ALSO TOLD HOUSEBOY THAT RESIDENCE NOW BELONGED TO GOU.

8. SINCE WE'RE LEAVING CONCUR WE DO NOT NEED ADDITIONAL SECURITY PERSONNEL.

9. WISH TO STRESS THAT UNLESS WE GET ALL OUR EFFECTS PACKED PRIOR TO DEPARTURE THERE IS SERIOUS RISK OF MAJOR LOSSES OWING TO CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KAMPAL 03257 302233Z

THEFT. THERE IS NOW ONLY ONE PACKER IN KAMPALA, AND THEY CAN HANDLE ONLY ONE PERSON AT A TIME.

10. STARTING RIGHT NOW WE INTEND TO CURTAIL OUR REPORTING TO MATTERS AFFECTING OUR OWN SITUATION PLUS PERHAPS ONE GENERAL WRAP-UP ON THE DAY'S ANTICS OF GENERAL AMIN.

11. THANKS FOR THE ADVICE ABOUT RED TAPE. WE DON'T HAVE TIME

TO NOTICE IT IN ANY CASE.

KEELEY

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NNN

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